

SDCFOA Code of Ethics

Officials at Interscholastic and youth football athletic events are participants in the educational development of student-athletes. As such, they must exercise a high level of self-discipline, independence and responsibility.

The purpose of this Code is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all SDCFOA members.

Officials shall know both the rules of the game and their application, and the mechanics necessary to enforce the rules, and shall exercise authority in an impartial, firm and controlled manner.

Officials shall work with each other in a constructive and cooperative manner.

Officials shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession in all interaction with student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school and youth football administrators, colleagues and the public.

Officials shall prepare themselves both physically and mentally, shall dress neatly and appropriately, and shall comport themselves in a manner consistent with the high standards of the profession.

Officials shall be punctual and professional in the fulfillment of their contractual obligations.

Officials shall remain mindful that their conduct influences the respect that student-athletes, coaches and the public hold the profession.

Officials shall, while enforcing the rules of play, remain aware of the inherent risk of injury that competition poses to student-athletes. Where appropriate, they shall inform event management of conditions or situations that appear potentially hazardous.

Officials shall take reasonable steps to educate themselves in the recognition of emergency conditions that might arise during the course of competition.